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§ 6701. Global Climate Change Program

(a) Establishment

For the purpose of having within the Department of Agriculture a focal point for coordinating all issues of climate change, the Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter in this chapter referred to as the “Secretary”) shall establish a Global Climate Change Program (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Program”). The Secretary shall designate a director of the Program who shall be responsible to the Secretary for carrying out the duties specified in subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(b) General duties

The Director shall—

- (1) coordinate policy analysis, long range planning, research, and response strategies relating to climate change issues;
- (2) provide liaison with other Federal agencies, through the Office of Science and Technology Policy, regarding issues of climate change;
- (3) inform the Department of scientific developments and policy issues relating to the effects of climate change on agriculture and forestry, including broader issues that affect the impact of climate change on the farms and forests of the United States;
- (4) recommend to the Secretary alternative courses of action with which to respond to such scientific developments and policy issues; and
- (5) ensure that recognition of the potential for climate change is fully integrated into the research, planning, and decision-making processes of the Department.

(c) Specific responsibilities

The Director shall—

- (1) coordinate the global climate change studies required by section 6702 of this title;
- (2) provide, through such other agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate, competitive grants for research in climatology relating to the potential impact of climate change on agriculture;
- (3) coordinate the participation of the Department in interagency climate-related activities;

(4) consult with the National Academy of Sciences and private, academic, State, and local groups with respect to climate research and related activities;

(5) represent the Department to the Office of Science and Technology Policy and coordinate the activities of the Department in response to requirements of this chapter;

(6) represent the Department on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; and

(7) review all Department budget items relating to climate change issues, including specifically the research budget to be submitted by the Secretary to the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Office of Management and Budget.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2402, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4058.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c)(5), was in the original “this title”, meaning title XXIV of Pub. L. 101-624, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4058, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of title XXIV to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

SHORT TITLE

Section 2401 of title XXIV of Pub. L. 101-624 provided that: “This title [enacting this chapter and amending sections 1601 and 1602 of Title 16, Conservation] may be cited as the ‘Global Climate Change Prevention Act of 1990.’”

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 6704 of this title.

§ 6702. Study of global climate change, agriculture, and forestry

(a) Crops

(1) In general

The Secretary shall study the effects of global climate change on agriculture and forestry. The study shall, at a minimum address—

- (A) the effects of simultaneous increases in temperature and carbon dioxide on crops of economic significance;
- (B) the effects of more frequent or more severe weather events on such crops;
- (C) the effects of potential changes in hydrologic regimes on current crop yields;
- (D) the economic effects of widespread and increased drought frequency in the south, midwest, and plains States; and
- (E) changes in pest problems due to higher temperatures.

(2) Further studies

If the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1) warrant, the Secretary shall conduct further studies that address the means of mitigating the effects of global climate change on crops of economic significance that shall, at a minimum—

- (A) identify whether climate change tolerance can be bred into these crops, the amount of time necessary for any such breeding, and the effects on the income of farmers;
- (B) evaluate existing genetic resource and breeding programs for crops for their ability

to develop new varieties that can tolerate potential climate changes; and

(C) assess the potential for the development of crop varieties that are tolerant to climate changes and other environmental stresses, such as drought, pests, and salinity.

(b) Forests

The Secretary shall conduct a study on the emissions of methane, nitrous oxide, and hydrocarbons from tropical and temperate forests, the manner in which such emissions may affect global climate change; the manner in which global climate change may affect such emissions; and the manner in which such emissions may be reduced through management practices. The study shall, at a minimum—

(1) obtain measurements of nitrous oxide, methane, and nonmethane hydrocarbons from tropical and temperate forests;

(2) determine the manner in which the nitrous oxide, methane, and nonmethane hydrocarbon emissions from temperate and tropical forest systems will respond due to climate change; and

(3) identify and address alternative management strategies for temperate and tropical forests that may mitigate any negative effects of global climate change.

(c) Reports

The Secretary shall submit reports of the studies conducted under subsections (a) and (b) of this section within 3 and 6 years, respectively, after November 28, 1990, to the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate. In addition, interim reports regarding such studies shall be provided by the Secretary to such Committees annually, with recommendations for actions which may be taken to mitigate the negative effects of global climate change and to adapt to global climate changes and related phenomena.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2403, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4059.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives treated as referring to Committee on Science of House of Representatives by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 6701 of this title.

§ 6703. Technical advisory committee

(a) Establishment

The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a technical advisory committee to provide advice to the Secretary concerning the major study areas required under this chapter.

(b) Members

The committee established under subsection (a) of this section shall be composed of such representatives of universities, professional societies, government laboratories, and agricultural, environmental and other organizations as

the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, determines appropriate based on an assessment by the Secretary of qualifications required for service on such committee. Appointments to such committee shall be made not later than 90 days after November 28, 1990. Such committee shall have a chairperson who shall be elected by the members of the committee from among such members.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2404, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4060.)

TERMINATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Advisory committees established after Jan. 5, 1973, to terminate not later than the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the date of their establishment, unless, in the case of a committee established by the President or an officer of the Federal Government, such committee is renewed by appropriate action prior to the expiration of such 2-year period, or in the case of a committee established by the Congress, its duration is otherwise provided by law. See section 14 of Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 776, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 6704. Office of International Forestry

(a) Establishment

The Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, shall establish an Office of International Forestry within the Forest Service within six months after November 28, 1990.

(b) Deputy Chief designation

The Chief shall appoint a Deputy Chief for International Forestry.

(c) Duties

The Deputy Chief shall—

(1) be responsible for the international forestry activities of the Forest Service;

(2) coordinate the activities of the Forest Service in implementing the provisions of this chapter; and

(3) serve as Forest Service liaison to the director for the program established pursuant to section 6701 of this title.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2405, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4060.)

§ 6705. Line item

The President's proposed budget to Congress for the first fiscal year beginning after November 28, 1990, and for each subsequent fiscal year shall specifically identify funds to be spent on Forest Service international cooperation and assistance.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2406, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4060.)

§ 6706. Institutes of Tropical Forestry

The Secretary is authorized and directed to establish an Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico and an Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry (hereafter in this section referred to as the "Institutes"). The Institutes shall conduct research on forest management and natural resources that shall include—

(1) management and development of tropical forests;